

DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER



MILTON
Lutheran Church

*Fostering community through
faith, love and service.*

OFFICE LOCATION

Milton Lutheran Church
100 Mahoning Street, Milton PA 17847
Office Phone: 570-742-4601
Office email: office@miltonlutheranchurch.org
Church website: <https://miltonlutheranchurch.org>

OFFICE HOURS

Monday	8AM-2PM
Tuesday	8AM-2PM
Wednesday	8AM-2PM
Thursday	8AM-2PM
Friday	8AM-2PM

PASTORAL OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday: 10am - 3pm

*Please call the office to reserve time
to speak with Pastor Gary.*



***Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and our
YouTube Channel to connect with us online.***

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

THU, DEC 1	5:30-7PM	GETTING AHEAD
FRI, DEC 2	3:30-5:30PM	PARENTS HELPING PARENTS
SUN, DEC 4	8-8:30AM	ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
	9:30-11AM	WORSHIP
	11:30-1PM	SELF CARE SANCTUARY
MON, DEC 5	12-1PM	COMMUNITY MEAL
	6-8M	MILTON ROTARY MTG.
	TBA	BOY SCOUTS
TUE, DEC 6	10-11AM	STAFF MTG
	5PM	TOPS
WED, DEC 7	6-8PM	WELCOME TABLE
THU, DEC 8	5:30-7PM	BOY SCOUTS
	9:30AM	GETTING AHEAD MTG.
FRI, DEC 9	3:30-5:30PM	WORSHIP TEAM MTG.
SUN, DEC 11	8-8:30AM	PARENTS HELPING PARENTS
	9:30-11AM	ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
	11AM-12PM	WORSHIP
	DURING WORSHIP	FELLOWSHP HOUR
MON, DEC 12	12-1PM	HEALING SERVICE
	6-8PM	MILTON ROTARY MTG.
TUE, DEC 13	10-11AM	BOY SCOUTS
WED, DEC 14	6-8PM	TOPS
THU, DEC 15	5:30-7PM	BOY SCOUTS
FRI, DEC 16	3:30-5:30PM	GETTING AHEAD MTG
SUN, DEC 18	8-8:30AM	PARENTS HELPING PARENTS
	9:30-11AM	ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
	1-2:30PM	WORSHIP
	FOLLOWING WORSHIP	YOUTH GROUP
		CONGREGATIONAL MTG.
MON, DEC 19	12-1PM	MILTON ROTARY MTG.
	6-8PM	BOY SCOUTS
	7-8:30PM	COUNCIL MTG.
TUE, DEC 20	10-11AM	TOPS
	10:30-12:30PM	MOVERS AND SHAKERS
WED, DEC 21	6-8PM	BOY SCOUTS
	7PM	BLUE CHRISTMAS
THU, DEC 22	5:30-7PM	GETTING AHEAD MTG
FRI, DEC 23	3:30-5:30PM	PARENTS HELPING PARENTS
SAT, DEC 24	4PM	CHRISTMAS EVE
	11PM	CHRISTMAS EVE
SUN, DEC 25	ONLINE ON LY	
MON, DEC 26	12-1PM	MILTON ROTARY CLUB
	6-8PM	BOY SCOUTS
	6:30-8PM	GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

TUE, DEC 27

WED, DEC 28

THU, DEC 29

10-11AM

6-8PM

5:30-7PM

TOPS

BOY SCOUTS

GETTING AHEAD

MTG.



Pastor's Message

Dear Friends of the Milton Lutheran Church,

Happy Advent! I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying the Christmas season. As we gather in preparation to celebrate the birth of Christ, we are reminded of how hopeful a time like this can be for each of us. God sent Jesus to show us love and bring hope to a broken world. I pray that you feel that sense of love and hope in your life!

For the past few months, we have been exploring our new core values. The core value this month is innovation. As a congregation we are constantly bombarded with the reality of the world around us. Things are changing at such a rapid pace and we find it is hard to keep up. At the same time, we are called to hold true to our own guiding principles. These principles are given to us through scripture. The challenge becomes taking the core of who we are and what God has called us to be and combining it in a way that brings about a church that is relevant to the world around it.

We do this in so many ways, in the way we learn, worship, fellowship, and serve together. We are also called to imagine how we might respond in new and different ways. In doing so, we commit ourselves to opening our minds and hearts to how God is calling us to proclaim the Gospel in the world today.

I'm excited to see how God will continue to challenge us to bring about the Gospel message in new and innovative ways!

Blue Christmas Worship

Wednesday, December 21st at 7:00pm

United In Christ Lutheran Church
1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg, PA



The Christmas season is a time filled with joy and hope. It can also be a time when people deal with sadness and grief as memories of lost loved ones come to the forefront of our minds. If you are struggling this Christmas season then we want to encourage you to join us for a Blue Christmas worship. The event is hosted by United in Christ Lutheran Church and done in partnership with Milton Lutheran Church and Saint Paul's UCC.

Children are invited to
STUMP THE CHOMP
(aka Pastor Gary)



Kids are invited to bring an item from home, place it in the CHUMP BAG and present it to Pastor Gary during worship.

The challenge will be for him to figure out how this item helps to share the gospel message of God's love with everyone.

Kids may bring the bag up front during worship or place it on the altar before worship begins.



We have decided to postpone the Animate bible study for the time being. We will plan to resume this bible study in the near future!

POSTPONED



**Sunday,
December 4th
11:30 A.M- 1:00 P.M.**

Self- Care Sanctuary

**Free hygiene/
self-care
products for
anyone that
needs them.**

**Milton Lutheran Church
100 Mahoning St. Milton. PA**



The next Self-Care sanctuary is right around the corner and will take place on December 4th from 11:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M. We are looking for volunteers to help with set-up, distribution, and clean-up. If you would like volunteer to help please sign up on the bulletin board. We are also asking volunteers to connect with Steph Byers of Pastor Gary before the day of the distribution.



Being Neighborly

WEEK 1- BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR MEANS
LOVING UNCONDITIONALLY

Sunday, December 4th

This Sunday we continue to celebrate the season of advent and enjoy our worship series, "Being Neighborly". This week we focus on how to love unconditionally. We find our direction in two different places. First is through the sacrifice of Jesus and his teachings. Second is by looking at the people around us. Join us this Sunday to find out more!

Week 2- (Dec. 4th) Loving Unconditionally

Week 3- (Dec. 11th) Standing Up for Others

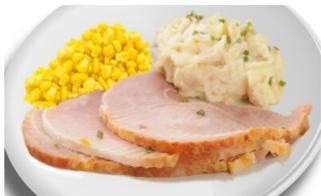
Week 4- (Dec. 18th) Loving When It's Hard



SHARING OUR TABLES FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

A ministry partnership of Milton and West Milton congregations.

Saint Paul's at 1125 Mahoning Street, Milton



Sunday, December 4
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Join us for a meal of Ham,
mashed potatoes, corn, and cake

Eat-in or Take-out

Partners in Ministry: Milton Lutheran Church, Saint Paul's United Church of Christ, United In Christ Lutheran Church, and St. Paul's AME Church.

Our next community meal is right around the corner! Sign-ups are available on the bulletin board and we are accepting donations for food items as well as volunteers to help with set-up, food service, and clean-up. Thank you for your support of this vital ministry!



FELLOWSHIP HOUR

SUNDAYS DECEMBER 11TH

FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Downstairs in the
fellowship hall.



The Wonder of CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 24th



Join us



**for worship @ the Milton Lutheran Church
as we explore the wonder of Christmas.**

4:00 P.M. - Contemporary Worship

10:30 P.M. - Special Music

11:00 P.M. - Traditional Worship with candlelight

The Wonder of
CHRISTMAS

CHECK US OUT ONLINE AT
MILTONLUTHERANCHURCH.ORG
100 MAHONING ST. MILTON, PA 17847

Memorial Gifts

Abiding Memorial in memory of Doris Moore:

Carol Yost, Jeff and Cindy Coup

Abiding Memorial in memory of Lin Davis:

Chris Coup Family, Gini Kavar, Kerry Davis, Rick Coup, Ernie and Sara Delp, Jeff & Cindy Kelp and Ann Mellman

Abiding Memorial in memory of Nancy Cochran:

Ann Mellman, Jeff and Cindy Coup, Ernie and Sara Delp, Chris Coup Family, Rick Coup Family, Joyce and Bart Reishard, Greenly, The Blooms, Weisners, Solomons, Carol Yost

Abiding Memorial in Memory of Pat Muffly

Nevin and Carol Yost

Please remember to submit Christmas tree gift tags on/before Dec 11th.





12/13/08	Erik and Stephanie Strawser
12/24/68	Karl S. and Lois A. Snyder
12/25/56	David and Shirley Robinson



12/1	Crystal Gnidovec	12/18	Peggy Buck
12/1	Julie Benshoff	12/20	Cuff Greiner
12/5	Carolyn Daniloff	12/20	Kevin Fry
12/7	Ruth Greenly	12/21	Alyssa Byers
12/7	Florence Ishler	12/22	Blake Wargo
12/16	Joe Rearick	12/23	Sara Delp
12/17	Penny Ulmer	12/24	Joan Schwartz



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the church office with these dates.

PRAYER LIST

Please Join Us In Prayer For...

*Jo Ann Galbraith, Joanie Fisher, Ken Gaugler,
Rose and Terry Deaner, Mary Billhime, Ed
Coup, Patsy and Jack Aunkst, Ju-lie Benshoff,
Gerald Greenly, Jim Seidel & Family, Melvin Crist, April and
Schuyler and Ernie Delp.*



*If you know someone who needs to be added
or removed from the prayer list, please call
the church office.*

December

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

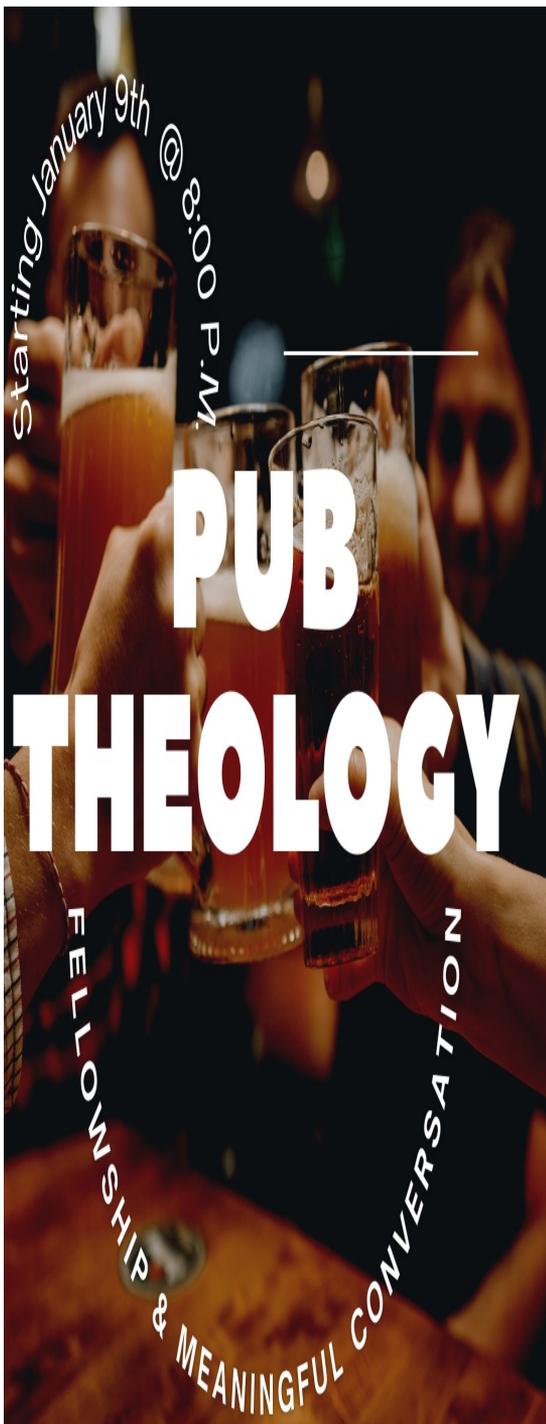
Worship Assistant: Lynette Weisner

Greeters: Joe and Krista Yaiko

Worship Setup: Kellie Brouse and Chuck Stahl

Communion Assistants: Kay Dunn and Connie Stover

*If you are interested in being a worship volunteer please
let Pastor Gary or Chuck Stahl know. Training is available.*



Coming January 9th! Join Pastor Gary for a new small group especially for people who would like a different kind of fellowship and conversation about faith & spirituality. A location for our gathering will be determined at a later date.



Jeff Coup, Peggy Buck and her husband, Scott hiked along beautiful Ketchum Run today. In spite of predictions, the hike started and finished in sunshine with just a few sprinkles in the middle. All three of them enjoyed the hike enough to do it again. This will be our last hike until deer hunting season is over, but we will be hiking during the winter so crampons or removable shoe spikes should be on everyone's Christmas list.

YOUTH GROUP

MEETING DEC 4TH & 18TH 1PM-2:30PM

***Youth Group is open to all students in grades 7-12
and typically runs for about two hours!***

If you are or have a youth member interested in being part of Youth Group, please reach out to Pastor Gary and we'll get you connected!



Buffalo Valley Conference of the Upper Susquehanna Synod ELCA

At the Synod Assembly Pastor Gary was installed as the new Dean of the Buffalo Valley Conference. The Buffalo Valley Conference spans all of Union County and the upper portion of Northumberland County.

Buffalo Valley Conference has its own Facebook page where we share community events happening within our conference.

Check it out here, www.facebook.com/bvcuss/

And don't forget to  LIKE the page!



Healing SERVICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH
DURING WORSHIP

During worship on December 11th we will be offering a time of healing for anyone that needs it. The Christmas season can often be a time where people struggle with things in their lives. We hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to receive a time of healing during worship and center yourself around God's love for you.

Tuesday, December 6th
5:00 P.M.

Worship

Discussion

Service



Meal

An intergenerational worship experience like none other...

Play

Community

Join us on December 6th for our dinner Welcome Table gathering. There will be great food, worship, crafts, and lots of fun for everyone!



Join Us January 15th!

Chili

**COOK OFF &
GAME NIGHT**



**SUNDAY,
JANUARY 15TH**

5:00 P.M. CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL

Join us for some time of fun and fellowship as we taste some great chili and play games together. Make your own Chili to be judged, bring your favorite game to play and support World Hunger. We will be voting for our favorite chili. Let's see if we can dethrone last year's winner! The meal is free! Donations will be accepted and all proceeds will go to the World Hunger Appeal

Make the best chili
and win the coveted
trophy



Milton Lutheran Church
100 Mahoning St.
Milton, PA 17870

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Adult Bible Study meets before church on Sundays. We meet at 8am in the church library. We are finishing up our book study “The Girl’s Still Got It.” During Advent we will be reading “Book of Faith Advent Reflections.”

How we wait affects our experience of God in our daily lives. Book of Faith Advent Reflections guides you in your advent waiting through daily Biblical reflections, journaling, activities, and prayer. Each week begins with an Advent Bible study that can be used by individuals, small groups, and families, in congregational settings or at home. Quick and easy daily activities include options for all ages, making this book a great gift for helping you focus on the reason for the season.

MLC has purchased books. Books will be handed out the week of November 20th Everyone is invited to join us!!



MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH
100 MAHONING ST. MILTON, PA

MOVERS & SHAKERS

SENIOR'S GROUP

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH, 10:30 A.M- 12:30 P.M.

MEAL

CONVERSATION

BINGO

Our seniors group will be meeting again December 15th. This time around we will have a craft project led by Pastor Stina Schaeffer. In addition, we will have a homemade meal bingo, and lots of fun! We hope you will join us!

Christmas Day Worship

Sunday, December 25th

You're invited to join us online for worship!

Christmas Day worship will be online only. Join us, as we worship together and reflect on the birth of Jesus.

miltonlutheranchurch.org





A Service of

LESSONS
&
CAROLS

Sunday, January 1st
9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, December 6th

5:00 P.M.

Worship

Discussion

Service

THE WELCOME



Meal

An intergenerational worship experience like none other...

Play

Community

The welcome table is a new kind of intergenerational worship for people of all ages. On November 1st we had our first The Welcome Table event. We had around 30 people attend. It was great!

The Welcome Table will happen again on Tuesday, December 6th. We hope you will join us for worship, a meal, discussion, and fellowship.

Bring someone along with you!

MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pastor	Gary Schaeffer
Director of Music	John Warfel
Assistant Director of Music	Nancy Walters
Office Administrator	Kasi Peterson
Digital Ministry Coordinator	Seth Reitz
Custodian	Chuck Stahl
Treasurer	Rose Deaner
MLC Council	President: Lynnette Weisner Vice President: Rusty Brouse Secretary: Kay Dunn Chris Coup, Kevin Fry, Nancy Walters, Connie Stover, Joe Yaiko, Rose Deaner.
Worship Team	Jeff Coup, Kellie Brouse, Nancy Walters, Sue Warfel, John Warfel
Digital Ministry Team	Aaron Coup, Rick Coup, Seth Reitz, Gaven Russell, Garrett Russell, Ellie Schaeffer
Outreach Team	Connie Stover, Kay Dunn, Claire Weisner, Lynnette Weisner, Carol Yost, Linwood Hill, Krista Yaiko, Karen Martello, Peggy Fisher, Cindy Trapane
Ministry Planning Team	Penny Ulmer, Rose Handy, Lynette Weisner, Ruth Scott, Joe Yaiko and Cindy Coup
Property Team	Don Fisher, Chuck Stahl, Bob Greenly, Rusty Brouse, Helen Billhime, Bill Heimbach, Seth Reitz, Joe Yaiko



MILTON
Lutheran Church

100 Mahoning St. Milton, PA 17847
570-742-4601

WORSHIP: SUNDAYS 9:30AM

CHURCH OFFICE

Open Mon. - Thur. 8:00am - 2:00pm
Email: office@miltonlutheranchurch.org

VISIT US AT

Church's Website: www.miltonlutheranchurch.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/MiltonLutheranChurch/
Instagram: www.instagram.com/MiltonLutheranChurch/